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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- 25X1 1. Foreign Minister Viliam Siroky and most Communist Party circles and others in Czechoslovakia actually believe that the United States is conducting bacteriological warfare in Korea. This is the result mainly of Soviet propaganda being much more effective than American propaganda.<sup>1</sup>
2. The recent Czech press attacks naming Austria as a base for Western rearmament have been made on Soviet orders. Rude Pravo and lesser Czech papers are merely extending the Soviet propaganda line aimed at accusing the West of rearming Germany and Austria for an attack on the USSR. There are probably no specific Austrophobes in Czech press circles.
3. Domestic Party efforts are now focused on pushing workers to increased production. In a speech on 6 June 1952 to shop stewards and plant managers, Premier Antonin Zapotocky stressed the need for technical competence to overcome the industrial and labor crisis and stated that in the future the criterion for top industrial jobs would be professional competence instead of political views. In a speech to the same group on 13 June, Vice-Premier Jaromir Dolansky criticized the "impossible" state of Czech nationalized industries, citing low productivity, low morale, and the high rate of absenteeism. He specifically named the Vitkovice Iron Works, where May 1952 saw a turnover of 5,000 workers out of a total of 12,000 employed.
- 25X1 Comment: Mistakes of Radio Free Europe include harping on "collaborators" when the Czech government is being run by Czechs with considerable popular support; encouraging false hope when Czechs know that liberation is a long way off; and false reporting, as in the case of the alleged currency conversion.

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